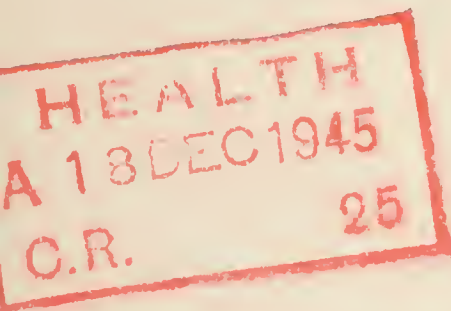


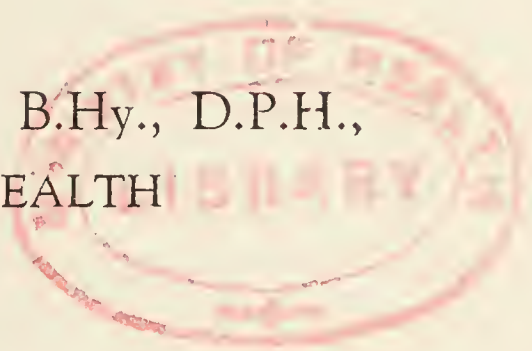
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THE CITY OF DURHAM CORPORATION.



ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND OTHER RECORDS  
FOR 1944.

S. KNIBB YOUNG, M.D., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



DURHAM  
G. BAILES & SONS, PRINTERS, ETC.

1945.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (PART TIME):

S. KNIBB YOUNG, M.D., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

R. CAILE, M.B., B.S.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR:

ALBERT E. JONES, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR:

LESLIE OATES, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

(Commenced 1st September, 1944).

MATRON OF ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

MISS E. SCORER, S.R.N.

(Resigned 30th September, 1944).

MISS F. M. WEDDLE, S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., Housekeeping  
Certificate.

(Commenced 1st October, 1944).

CLERK:

W. E. CHAPMAN (Health Department).

(Resigned 22nd July, 1944).

MRS. J. WILBY (Health Department).

(Commenced 26th July, 1944). (Temporary Appointment)

MISS N. DICKINSON (Billeting Assistant).

(Commenced 24th July, 1944). (Temporary Appointment).

DURHAM,

October, 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my fifteenth Annual Report being that for the year 1944.

The vital statistics, in face of all the prevailing circumstances, can be considered quite satisfactory.

The Death rate is the highest for ten years, but the increase is small and much less than might have been expected in view of the difficulties under which all have lived during war years.

Cardio-vascular disease was responsible for 78 deaths, but many were the natural end of senility. Tuberculosis caused 15 deaths so it is evident that Cancer with 30 deaths, now definitely claims the caption of the "Captain of death." So it can be seen how urgent is the need for full research into the causes and possible treatment of this scourge.

The incidence of the common infectious diseases was thankfully at a very low level, and there were no deaths except for those from Influenza, and those from Tuberculosis.

The Infant Mortality Rate is up with 20 deaths. However, it should be noted that ten were due to prenatal causes. The causes of this waste are too involved to make any comment here. The deaths of ten infants born in reasonable health is favourably comparable with pre war numbers, and my impression is that the babies born during these latter years are much to be admired. There is no doubt that Mothercraft is increasingly claiming the interest of expectant mothers.

As to be expected there is little to report on housing progress. The needs of the City in this direction are considerable, and the Housing Committee are determined to seize every opportunity to press progress to the maximum. In March this year, the Senior Sanitary Inspector and myself, at the request of the Housing Committee, submitted a report on the housing needs of the City, and as I consider the information given so important as a guide to future policy, I have deemed it expedient to include it in this report as

an appendix. The report was duly considered by the Health Committee and it was later decided that the Council's house building programme for the next two years will include the provision of 75 two bedroom houses, 200 three bedroom houses, and 25 four bedroom houses, making a total of 300 houses.

To the members of the Committee I offer my thanks for their continued confidence and interest, and to my fellow officials, particularly the Sanitary Inspectors, for their co-operation so generously given.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

S. KNIBB YOUNG,  
Medical Officer of Health.

THE CITY OF DURHAM CORPORATION.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OTHER RECORDS

for 1944.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres ... 4,029.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population 1943 :—16,560

Do. do. 1944 :—16,820

Number of inhabited houses end of 1943 :—4,800.

Do. 1944 :—4,850.

Rateable value :—(1943), £121,389. (1944), £121,285.

Sum represented by a 1d. rate :—(1943) £469 12s. 8d.

(1944) £479 5s. 1d.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The estimated number of unemployed men in the City at the end of 1944 was 44, as compared with 77 at the end of 1943.



## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

## BIRTHS.

Live Births :—	TOTAL.	M.	F.	
Legitimate .....	278	135	143	Birth-rate (per 1,000 population) 17·89.
Illegitimate .....	23	11	12	

## Stillbirths :—

Legitimate .....	8	4	4	Rate per 1,000 total births 29·03.
Illegitimate .....	1	0	1	

## DEATHS.

241	128	113	Death-rate per 1,000 population) 14·33.
-----	-----	-----	--

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES. ... 2.

## DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE :—

All infants, per 1,000 live births .....	66
Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate births .....	66
Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate births .....	42
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....	30
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .....	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .....	3

## DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGE PERIODS.

All Ages.	0—1	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—
241	23	3	2	3	7	15	54	134

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND INFANT MORTALITY  
OVER TEN YEARS.

	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Birth Rate	14.5	14.0	14.9	14.7	15.3	14.1	12.5	12.9	16.8	17.9
Death Rate	11.7	12.0	12.9	11.7	10.8	14.8	12.0	13.2	14.5	14.3
Infant Mortality	56	92	50	28	37	44	59	60	50	66

TABLE COMPARING THE BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE  
AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1944  
OF ENGLAND AND WALES, ETC., WITH THAT FOR DURHAM  
CITY.

	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population		Death Rate per 1000 Popula- tion.	Rate per 1,000 Live Births.	
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years.	Total deaths under one year.
England and Wales ...	17.6	0.50	11.6	4.8	46
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ... ..	20.3	0.64	13.7	7.3	52
148 Smaller Towns, (Esti- mated Resident Popu- lations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931) ... ..	20.9	0.61	12.4	4.4	44
London ... ..	15.0	0.42	15.7	10.1	61
Administrative County of Durham ... ..	20.9	0.70	12.0	0.1	61
Durham City ... ..	17.9	0.54	14.3	9.97	66

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN DURHAM BOROUGH, 1944.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Total.	M.	F.
ALL CAUSES.....	241	128	113
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .....	—	—	—
Measles.....	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—
Influenza .....	3	3	—
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....	13	4	9
Other Tuberculosis Diseases.....	2	1	1
Syphilis.....	3	3	—
Acute Polio-myelitis .....	—	—	—
Cancer—Malignant Disease .....	30	18	12
Diabetes .....	4	—	4
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.....	21	8	13
Heart Disease.....	44	25	19
Other Circulatory Diseases.....	13	8	5
Bronchitis.....	14	9	5
Pneumonia .....	8	5	3
Other Respiratory Diseases.....	1	1	—
Peptic Ulcers .....	2	1	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .....	3	2	1
Appendicitis .....	1	1	—
Other Digestive Diseases.....	4	3	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis.....	7	3	4
Puerperal Sepsis.....	1	—	1
Other Puerperal Causes.....	1	—	1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.....	10	5	5
Road Traffic Accidents .....	2	2	—
Suicide .....	2	2	—
Other Violent Causes .....	6	5	1
All Other Causes.....	46	19	27



## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES REPORTED DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Smallpox .....	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	96	94	—
Diphtheria .....	28	28	—
Enteric Fever.....	2	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	2	—	2
Pneumonia .....	7	—	7
Erysipelas.....	9	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever.....	2	—	—
Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—
Whooping Cough.....	31	—	—
Measles .....	197	—	—

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF SCARLET FEVER AND  
DIPHTHERIA.

Ages ...	0—	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65—
Scarlet Fever	—	2	4	6	4	44	25	6	3	2	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	6	7	10	5	—	—	—

## TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non- Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 — 1 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 — 5 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 10 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 — 15 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
15 — 20 .....	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
20 — 25 .....	2	2	1	—	1	4	—	—
25 — 35 .....	2	2	—	—	1	4	—	—
35 — 45 .....	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
45 — 55 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 — 65 .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and Upwards ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS .....	10	5	1	1	4	9	1	1

# SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR, 1944.

I.—PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.	Number of Informal written Notices by Inspector.	Number of Formal Notices by order of Authority.	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice.
Dwelling-houses and Schools—			
Foul Conditions ... ..	18	—	18
Structural Defects ... ..	164	6	140
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—
Lodging-houses ... ..	—	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops ... ..	—	—	—
Cowsneds ... ..	—	—	—
Bake houses ... ..	3	—	3
Slaughter-houses ... ..	—	—	—
Ashpits and Privies ... ..	—	—	—
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	6	—	6
Waterclosets ... ..	33	—	33
Defective Yard Paving ... ..	2	—	—
House Drainage—			
Defective Traps ... ..	3	—	3
No Disconnection from Sewers	1	—	1
Other Faults ... ..	55	3	58
Water Supply ... ..	6	—	—
Pigsties ... ..	—	1	1
Animals Improperly Kept ... ..	1	—	1
Offensive Trades ... ..	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances ... ..	—	—	—
Other Nuisances ... ..	9	—	9
Lack of proper Dust Bins ... ..	51	2	44
Fishfriers ... ..	2	—	2
Factories ... ..	1	—	1
<b>TOTALS ... ..</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>320</b>

## II.—PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infectious Bedding stoved or destroyed ... ..	334
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease ... ..	130
Schools disinfected after Infectious Disease ... ..	7
Prosecutions for exposures of infected persons or things ... ..	nil
Convictions for exposure of infected persons or things ... ..	nil

## III.—GENERAL.

Number of New Houses erected during year ... ..	nil
Number of such Houses occupied during year ... ..	nil
Ashpit-privies converted into Ash-closets ... ..	nil
Ashpit-privies converted into Water-closets ... ..	nil
Ash-closets converted into Water-closets ... ..	nil
Total number of Water-closets in District ... ..	5508
Total number of Ash-closets in District ... ..	60
Total number of Ash-pit privies in District ... ..	26

## HOUSING STATISTICS.

1.	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)...	331
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose... ..	714
2.	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ... ..	nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose... ..	nil
3.	Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...	nil
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of 3 above) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation ...	152

## REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of dwelling-houses made fit in consequence of Informal Action by the Local Authority or their Officers...	119
--	-----

## ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

## A.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	8
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners... ..	4
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	4

## B.—Proceedings under sections 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	nil
(2) Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners... ..	nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	nil

## C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	nil

## D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

Number of separate tenements in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	nil
--	-----



## INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

During the year 331 inspections were made of properties in the District. 123 preliminary notices with respect to various nuisances found in the course of inspection were served upon the owners or occupiers, most of which received prompt attention.

In 12 instances nuisances were reported to the Health Committee, and statutory notices ordered to be served. It was found necessary to issue 9 statutory notices. In 4 instances the Corporation did the work in default and charged the owners with the cost. The various premises were visited during the progress of the work with the object of seeing that the notices were complied with, the number of such reinspections being 383.

## TRANSFER OF SLUM CLEARANCE TENANTS AND ABATEMENT OF OVERCROWDING.

The present cessation of building has brought re-housing practically to a standstill. Three houses in the Sherburn Road Estate became vacant. Two families from houses in Clearance Areas were transferred and the third house was let to a family living under conditions of acute overcrowding.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

118 enquiries were made in connection with cases of infectious disease. Disinfection was carried out at 137 premises, where 217 lots of bedding and 117 articles were treated.

## VERMIN DISINFESTATION.

Treatment for bug infestation was carried out at 19 houses, 8 of which were Council Houses. The method adopted consists of the stripping off of all wall-paper, and the removal of all skirting and architraves from doors and windows, followed by the treatment of all exposed surfaces by a blow lamp, after which the room and contents are sprayed with Zaldecide. In severe cases fumigation is carried out in addition to spraying. After treatment all holes and cracks in plaster are effectively stopped, woodwork replaced and where necessary, walls re-distempered. It is recommended that papering of walls be not carried out for a period of at least three years. The foregoing method has been found to be very successful in the eradication of bugs.

## RODENT INFESTATION.

A survey of rodent infestation was undertaken during the latter part of 1943, at the request of the Ministry of Food, in pursuance of the provisions of S.R. & O. No. 680, 1943. The work was completed during the year under review. During the course of the Survey 619 visits were made and 120 infestations were discovered.

## DRAINAGE.

The following particulars relate to drainage work carried out during the year :

New drainage systems laid	...	...	...	...	3
Drainage systems reconstructed	...	...	...	...	9
Defective drains repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	23
Inspection chambers built	...	...	...	...	9
Intercepting traps fixed	...	...	...	...	7
Ventilation provided to drains	...	...	...	...	7
New gullies fixed	...	...	...	...	8
Other drainage defects remedied	...	...	...	...	7
Number of times smoke test applied to drains	...	...	...	...	21

**ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP  
ACT, 1901, AND THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.**

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Occupies Prose- cuted.
FACTORIES with mechanical power ... ..	12	—	—
FACTORIES without mechanical power ... ..	10	4	—
OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and engineering construc- tion but not including out- workers' premises) ..	—	—	—
Total ... ..	22	4	—



## 2. DEFECTS FOUND AND REMEDIED.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	1	1
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation ...	2	2
Other offences ... ..	1	1
Total ... ..	4	4

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## MILK SUPPLY.

There are 12 Cowkeepers and 21 Dairies and Purveyors of Milk registered in the district. In addition, 31 dealers are registered for the sale of bottled milk only. Registered premises have been visited during the year in order to ensure that the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order have been complied with.

## SLAUGHTERING OF ANIMALS.

There are 6 slaughter-houses in the City. Since 1940 Government control has prohibited the use of private slaughterhouses. Meat coming into the City is slaughtered and inspected at Government controlled premises in the adjoining urban district of Brandon and Byshottles.

## PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

Under the provisions of the above Regulations, 5 notifications of slaughter were received. 6 pig carcasses and organs were inspected and passed as fit for human consumption.

## FOOD INSPECTION.

The following list shows the quantities of food that were found upon inspection to be unfit for human consumption. Most of the losses were caused through delays experienced during transport. All food condemned was voluntarily surrendered. As much of the condemned food as was practicable was utilised for salvage or pig-feeding.

19,200 jars Savoury Spread.  
4,438 Fish Cakes.

747 $\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. Luncheon Meat.  
 854 lbs. Fresh Fish.  
 167 lbs. Black Pudding.  
 154 tins Fish.  
 816 Meat Pies.  
 210 lbs. Bacon.  
 31 tins Meat.  
 63 tins Vegetables.  
 2 jars Vegetables.  
 81 tins Milk.  
 16 tins Jam.  
 10 tins Soup.  
 1 tin Lyles Syrup.  
 85 bottles Horseradish Sauce.  
 60 lbs. Cooking Apples.  
 9 lbs. Dates.  
 8 lbs. Biscuits.  
 6 lbs. Tomatoes.  
 7 lbs. Rice.  
 3 lbs. Flour.  
 1 lb. Cheese.  
 12 oz. Tea.  
 1 lb. 10 oz. Edinburgh Slab Cake.  
 72 pkts. Custard Powder.  
 240 Crumpets.  
 6 cwt. Cauliflowers.  
 109 Eggs.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The work under this Act is performed by an Inspector of the County Council of Durham and during the past year the following samples were submitted by him to the Public Analyst for examination, viz.:—

New Milk ... ..	16	Cocoa ... ..	2
Pasteurised Milk ... ..	3	Lemon Curd ... ..	1
Butter ... ..	4	Meat Paste ... ..	1
Margarine ... ..	4	Coffee ... ..	2
Jam (Full Fruit Std.) ... ..	5	Ground Ginger ... ..	1
Sugar ... ..	2	Gregory Powder Tablets ... ..	1
Tea ... ..	5	Lemon Squash ... ..	1
Camphorated Oil... ..	2	Glycerine ... ..	1
Cod Liver Oil ... ..	2	Pork Loaf ... ..	1
Lard ... ..	3	Pineapple Preserve ... ..	1
Condensed Milk ... ..	1		
" Barlova " ... ..	1	Total ... ..	60

All the above samples were reported to be of genuine quality

## SHOPS ACTS, 1912-1934.

139 visits were paid to shops in order to ascertain if the provisions of the Shops Acts were being complied with. In a number of instances it was found that the necessary notices and forms required by the Acts were not being exhibited. In each case the shop-keeper's attention was drawn to the fact and the omissions were duly rectified. The following sanitary defects were found and the necessary action taken for their abatement:—

Choked Drains	...	...	...	...	2
Dirty yards and sanitary conveniences	...				2
Offensive accumulations		...	...		2

## BILLETING.

During the year, a great deal of the time of the staff of the Department had, of necessity, to be given up to duties in connection with billeting. In consequence much of the normal work of routine Public Health inspections had to be curtailed in order to carry out the more urgent work of billeting.

In the early part of the year, at the request of the Ministry of Health, a survey of the City was carried out with the object of finding billeting accommodation for mining trainees. During the course of this survey 479 visits were made, and as a result a number of billets for "Bevin Boys" were found.

Shortly after the commencement of the attack on Southern England by means of the V.1. weapon, the numbers of evacuees coming into Durham steadily increased. By the end of September there were 405 private evacuees billeted in the City. Under the official Government scheme for the evacuation of the priority classes an organised party of 394 persons was transferred from East Barnet, Herts.

The greater number of evacuated persons were billeted with private householders. In addition, six large houses were requisitioned for billeting purposes under the powers provided by the Defence Regulations. After adaptation, furnishing and the provision of the necessary equipment, 23 families, comprising 80 persons were billeted in these premises.

A section of the Queen Mary's Hospital for Children, Carshalton, Surrey, was evacuated to the Dryburn Emergency Hospital, Durham. Owing to the strain on the existing accommodation at Dryburn Hospital, it was found necessary to billet 71 members of the nursing, clerical and administrative staff with private householders in the City.

The total number of evacuees of all categories billeted in the City was 976. It was found necessary to resort to compulsory billeting in only 6 cases. 3 appeals against Billeting Notices were heard by the Billeting Tribunal, of these 1 was upheld and 2 were dismissed.

A total of 1,394 visits were made by the staff in connection with billeting during the year.

### LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

It was found necessary to institute legal proceedings as follows:—

Date.	Nature of Complaint.	Act or Order under which proceedings were instituted.	Result.
February...	Insufficient dustbin accommodation.	Section 75 P.H.A., 1936.	Corporation executed work in default.
February...	Choked house drains.	Section 21, Durham Corporation Act, 1933.	Corporation executed work in default.
March ...	Distributing toys to a child under the age of 14 yrs. whilst engaged in the collection of rags.	Section 154, P.H.A., 1936.	Defendant fined 6s. 0d.
April ...	Choked house drains.	Section 21, Durham Corporation Act, 1933.	Corporation executed work in default.
December	Insufficient dustbin accommodation.	Section 75, P.H.A., 1936.	Corporation executed work in default.



## SUMMARY OF WORK OF SANITARY INSPECTORS' DEPARTMENT.

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	115
Number of house inspected	...	...	...	331
Number of houses re-inspected	...	...	...	774
Number of visits under Factories Act	...	...	...	22
Number of visits to food shops and food premises	...	...	...	154
Number of visits under Shops Acts	...	...	...	139
Number of times smoke and water tests applied to house drains	...	...	...	21
Number of Preliminary Notices served	...	...	...	123
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	9
Number of visits to cases of infectious disease	...	...	...	118
Number of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	190
Number of articles of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected	...	...	...	284
Number of library books disinfected	...	...	...	50
Number of visits to verminous houses	...	...	...	22
Number of verminous rooms disinfested	...	...	...	41
Number of visits made in connection with survey of rodent infestation	...	...	...	619
Number of visits made in connection with billeting of mining trainees	...	...	...	479
Number of visits made in connection with billeting of evacuees	...	...	...	1,394
Number of interviews with owners, contractors, complainants, etc.	...	...	...	450
Number of visits to caravans	...	...	...	7
Number of inspections of rivers and streams	...	...	...	7
Number of inspections of common yards and passages	...	...	...	20
Number of inspections of public sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	55
Number of miscellaneous sanitary inspections	...	...	...	102

## APPENDIX.

### CITY OF DURHAM.

Municipal Buildings,  
80, Claypath,

Durham.

7th May, 1945.

Gentlemen,

### SURVEY OF HOUSING NEEDS.

1. We, the undersigned in pursuance of the Council's instructions, beg to submit the following report on the housing needs of the City.



## SCOPE AND METHOD OF SURVEY.

2. A survey of the City has been carried out with the object of eliciting the following facts:—

- (i) The extent of overcrowding at present existing.
- (ii) The number of families not having homes of their own, i.e. living as sub-tenants.
- (iii) The number of families at present living in condemned property, including houses in Clearance Areas and Compulsory Purchase Areas, and in houses that are the subject of Closing Orders and Demolition Orders.
- (iv) The number of houses required to be built by the Corporation in order to re-house persons in the above categories.

3. With the small staff available for the purpose it was considered that a house-to-house visitation throughout the City in order to obtain the necessary information would take a considerable period of time. Consequently, it was decided to send an Enquiry Form to each house known to be occupied, with the exception of houses in the Sherburn Road Estate, tenement houses, and condemned houses, which were visited personally. The number of such visits totalled 1,189.

4. Forms were accordingly posted to all occupied houses (excluding those referred to above) as shown in the current List of Electors. By means of this method the required information was obtained much more quickly than would have been the case if a house-to-house enquiry had been carried out. It must however, be borne in mind, that where a Postal Survey is carried out, there exists the possibility of a slight margin of error in the returns, owing to:—

- (a) Forms being incorrectly filled in by householders.
- (b) Non-return of Forms.

In point of fact, of 3,619 Forms which were sent out, 3,045 or 84% were returned duly completed. Investigation revealed that in cases where householders failed to return the Forms, the houses in question were such that overcrowding was unlikely to exist. Further, one can reasonably assume, that in an Enquiry of this type, having as its object the provision of houses, where a need for housing exists, the householder would not fail to complete and return the Form.

## THE OVERCROWDING STANDARD.

5. The standard adopted in order to ascertain the extent of overcrowding existing was based upon that specified in the Housing Act, 1936. A house was deemed to be overcrowded if the number of persons sleeping therein is in excess of the "permitted number," as shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1.

Where a house consists of—	The Permitted Number of persons is—
One room	2
Two rooms	2½
Three rooms	4
Four rooms	6
Five rooms	8

In the application of the above table the following rules were observed:—

(a) A "unit" or "person" is a person, male or female, at or over the age of 10 years.

(b) A child, male or female, under the age of 10 years, counts as one half of a unit.

(c) Only rooms normally used for sleeping or living purposes were counted as rooms, so that bathrooms, sculleries, etc., were not counted as part of the accommodation.

## RESULTS OF THE SURVEY.

6. Table II shows the bedroom accommodation in the occupied dwelling houses. In computing the table all condemned property has been omitted.

TABLE II.

No. of bedrooms.	No. of houses.	Percentages.
1	272	7.41
2	1,417	38.67
3	1,679	45.80
4	226	6.16
5 and over	72	1.96
<i>Total</i> ...	3,666	100.00

## TENEMENT HOUSES.

7. It was ascertained that 27 houses are let off in Tenements. Table III shows the number and size of tenements (excluding condemned property) found to be occupied.

TABLE III.

No. of rooms in tenement.	No. of tenements.
1	36
2	63
3	20
4	4
<i>Total</i> ...	123

8. THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF OVERCROWDING REVEALED BY THE SURVEY IS AS FOLLOWS:—

Number of structurally separate houses found to be overcrowded	290
Number of tenements found to be overcrowded (see Appendix 1)	24
	<hr/> 314

Number of families living under overcrowded conditions 315

Appendix II shows Ward distribution of overcrowding.

9. OVERCROWDING IN ONE-FAMILY HOUSES.

No. of houses containing one family only, found to be overcrowded	184
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10. OVERCROWDING IN SUB-LET HOUSES.

(a) Number of families living in sub-let houses, which are overcrowded, and where overcrowding can be abated by rehousing sub-tenants	98
(b) Number of families living in sub-let houses, which are overcrowded, where re-housing of both chief tenant and sub-tenant will be necessary in order to abate overcrowding	16
(c) Total number of overcrowded families in sub-let houses	114

## COUNCIL HOUSES.

11. Table IV shows the extent of sub-letting and of overcrowding found to exist in Council Houses.

TABLE IV.

	Number of Houses.		
	Overcrowded.	Not Overcrowded.	Totals.
1 family only ...	74	774	848
2 families ...	32	112	144
3 families ...	8	1	9
4 families ...	1	—	1
<i>Totals</i> ...	115	887	1,002

It must be observed, with regard to sub-letting of Council Houses that in a considerable number of instances the sub-let families are married sons and/or daughters of the chief tenant.

## 12. SLUM CLEARANCE.

Table V shows the number of families at present living in 108 houses in Clearance Areas, Compulsory Purchase Areas, and houses which are the subject of Closing Orders and Demolition Orders.

TABLE V.

No. of persons in family.	Clearance Areas.	Compulsory Purchase Areas.	Closing and Demolition Orders.	Totals.
1	55	18	7	80
2	22	4	2	28
3	15	3	2	20
4	15	1	2	18
5	5	4	3	12
6	5	—	—	5
7	2	1	—	3
8	1	—	—	1
<i>Totals</i> ...	120	31	16	167



# HOUSING NEEDS OTHER THAN OVERCROWDING AND SLUM CLEARANCE.

13. Table VI shows the number of families, not overcrowded or in condemned houses, who live in sub-let houses. Column (c) of the table indicates the proportion of those families in Column (b), where husbands are at present serving in His Majesty's Forces.

TABLE VI.

No. of persons per family.	(b) Total No. of families.	(c) In H.M. Forces.
2	195	99
2½	62	35
3	72	44
3½	11	8
4	14	5
4½	7	3
5	5	3
6	3	1
<i>Total</i> ...	369	198



## RE-HOUSING PROPOSALS.

14. The number of families for whom it will be necessary to provide accommodation is shown in table VII.

TABLE VII.

No. of persons per family.	Rehousing of Slum Clearance tenants.	To abate over- crowding.	Families Inade- quately housed.	Totals.
1	80	—	—	80
1½	—	3	—	3
2	28	34	195	257
2½	7	38	62	107
3	16	49	72	137
3½	7	18	11	36
4	12	24	14	50
4½	5	24	7	36
5	5	29	5	39
5½	1	6	—	7
6	4	8	3	15
6½	1	22	—	23
7	1	20	—	21
7½	—	13	—	13
8	—	11	—	11
8½	—	9	—	9
9	—	3	—	3
9½	—	1	—	1
10	—	—	—	—
10½	—	2	—	2
11	—	—	—	—
11½	—	1	—	1
<i>Totals</i> ...	167	315	369	851

15. TABLE VIII shows the number of houses that will be required for all purposes. The deductions shown in line (e) of the table refer to 133 houses which will become vacant through the transfer of overcrowded families to larger houses, and will thus become available for re-letting.

TABLE VIII.

	1 bedroom Flats.	2 bedroom Houses.	3 bedroom Houses.	4 bedroom Houses.	5 bedroom Houses.	6 bedroom Houses.	Totals.
(a) Re-housing of Slum Clearance Tenants ...	80	70	10	7	—	—	167
(b) Abatement of overcrowding ...	—	166	53	56	36	4	315
(c) Provision for families inadequately housed ...	—	354	12	3	—	—	369
(d) Gross total of houses required	80	590	75	66	36	4	851
(e) Deduct for houses that will become vacant ...	—	62	64	7	—	—	133
(f) Net total of houses required...	80	528	11	59	36	4	718

## OBSERVATIONS.

16. In considering post-war housing needs it should be borne in mind that there are a number of single men and women, at present serving in the Forces who will marry after their demobilisation and will in consequence become in need of housing accommodation. It is not of course, possible to estimate this figure.

17. In this report no reference has been made to houses that are likely to be needed in connection with future Slum Clearance schemes. As soon as conditions permit, it is our intention to ask for the Committee's instructions to carry out an inspection of all the working class houses in the City, with the object of scheduling all property likely to become the subject of proceedings under the Housing Acts. As a rough estimate, we are of opinion that about 150 houses are likely to be classified as unfit for habitation.

18. In presenting this report we should like to express our thanks to the staff of the Town Clerk's Department who gave considerable assistance in the early stages of the Survey with the despatch of Enquiry Forms and the completion of Survey Cards, and to thank especially Mr. L. Oates who has been responsible for the visiting of Council houses, tenement houses and slum clearance areas, and Mrs. J. Wilby who has carried out the bulk of the clerical work involved in summarising the returns.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servants,

S. KNIBB YOUNG,  
Medical Officer of Health.

ALBERT E. JONES,  
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

## APPENDIX I.

## OVERCROWDING IN TENEMENT HOUSES.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF FAMILIES IN TENEMENTS FOUND TO BE OVERCROWDED.

No. of rooms in tenements.	No. of overcrowded families.
1	8
2	14
3	2
4	—
	24

TABLE SHOWING SIZE OF OVERCROWDED FAMILIES IN TENEMENT HOUSES.

No. of persons in family.	No. of cases of overcrowding.
2	—
3	8
4	9
5	6
6	1
7	—
	24

## APPENDIX II.

TABLE SHOWING EXTENT OF OVERCROWDING IN THE CITY.

Ward.	No. of families overcrowded. Degree of overcrowding expressed in units.											Total
	by $\frac{1}{2}$	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	2	$2\frac{1}{2}$	3	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4	$4\frac{1}{2}$	5	$5\frac{1}{2}$	
Crossgate ...	12	6	7	3	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	31
Elvet ...	14	15	11	4	5	3	—	1	—	—	—	53
Framwellgate...	13	8	5	5	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	35
Gilesgate ...	48	34	25	16	10	2	—	2	—	—	—	137
Neville's Cross	12	8	4	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	29
St. Nicholas ...	6	6	4	5	3	2	3	1	—	—	—	30
	105	77	56	36	22	7	5	5	1	1	—	315

